

Message Text

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ACTION AF-08

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02

SS-15 NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 ARA-10 IO-13

ACDA-10 DHA-02 /097 W

-----231102Z 053025 /17

O 230900Z MAR 77

FM AMEMBASSY MAPUTO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5604

INFO AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY KINSHASA PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY NAIROBI PRIORITY

AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN PRIORITY

UNCLAS MAPUTO 0295

CAPE TOWN FOR EMBASSY

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, MZ, CU

SUBJECT: FIDEL CASTRO VISIT TO MOZAMBIQUE

REF: MAPUTO 0286

1. ACCORDING TO LOCAL MEDIA, FIDEL CASTRO AND PARTY DEPART MOZAMBIQUE MARCH 23 FOR LUANDA, FOLLOWING A TWO-PLUS DAY VISIT TO MOZAMBIQUE. VISIT REMAINED CONFINED TO BEIRA AREA. YESTERDAY CASTRO MET AGAIN WITH MOZAMBIQUE PRESIDENT MACHEL, TOURED SUGAR ESTATE AND MET WITH LOCAL PARTY OFFICIALS, WHILE MEMBERS OF CUBAN PARTY MET WITH SENIOR GPRM OFFICIALS. LOCAL PRESS MARCH 23 ANNOUNCED THE SIGNING OF A COOPERATION AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES, TERMS UNSPECIFIED.

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2. NOTICIAS CARRIED TEXT OF CASTRO'S IMPROVISED REMARKS AT THE RECEPTION GIVEN FOR HIM MARCH 21 BY MACHEL IN BEIRA'S LUXURIOUS HOTEL DOM CARLOS. CASTRO CALLED MOZAMBIQUE AN "OASIS IN A WORLD OF OPPRESSION AND INJUSTICE," COMPARED THE CUBAN REVOLUTION WITH THAT OF MOZAMBIQUE AND SAID THE VISIT WAS THE BEGINNING OF A

"GREAT PERSONAL FRIENDSHIP" BETWEEN MACHEL AND HIMSELF.

3. CASTRO MENTIONED ALLEGED CIA PLOTS AGAINST HIM
CASTRO ACCUSED THE CIA OF TRYING TO USE CHEMICALS TO
MAKE HIM LOSE HIS BEARD, OF SENDING HIM EXPLOSIVE
CIGARS, OF WAGING BACTERIAL WARFARE, AND OF ENGAGING IN
OTHER ACTS WHICH "NOT EVEN JULES VERNE WOULD HAVE
THOUGHT OF." CASTRO DENIED THAT A PERSONALITY CULT
EXISTED IN CUBA. CASTRO LAUGHED AT THE RISKS OF BEING
A REVOLUTIONARY LEADERS, SAYING THAT IT DIDN'T MATTER
IF HE WERE KILLED BECAUSE THE CUBAN REVOLUTION WAS WELL
IMPLANTED AND WOULD CONTINUE WITHOUT HIM.

4. TURNING TO CUBAN-AFRICAN RELATIONS CASTRO
SPOKE OF SLAVE TRADE AND THE EVILS PERPETRATED BY COLONIAL-
ISM. CASTRO SAID THE CUBAN PEOPLE HAD ALSO BEEN ENSLAVED
IN ONE WAY OR ANOTHER, AND THEY ARE "ONE OF THE
ENSLAVED PEOPLES WHO ARE NOW FREE AND RETURNING TO AFRICA.
IT IS A REMARKABLE RETURN, BECAUSE IT IS NOT A RETURN
FOR A PARTY, IT IS A RETURN OF REVOLUTIONARIES AND A
RETURN OF COBATANTS." CASTRO CONTINUED, "THIS MEETING
OF SLAVES, THE SLAVES OF MOZAMBIQUE AND THE SLAVES OF
CUBA, WORRIES IMPERIALISM. AND IMPERIALISM HAS REASON
TO WORRY." CASTRO SAID THE WORLD HAS NOT PAID ATTENTION
TO AFRICAN PROBLEMS. "THE PROBLEMS OF ONE AFRICAN
COUNTRY CANNOT BE SOLVED UNLESS THE PROBLEMS OF ALL
AFRICAN COUNTRIES ARE SOLVED. AND WHAT CAN RESOLVE
THIS? SOCIALIST REVOLUTION. SOCIALISM. THERE IS NO
OTHER WAY."

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5. THE MOZAMBIKAN CONTINGENT IN BEIRA INCLUDED MACHEL,
FOREIGN MINISTER JOAQUIM CHISSANO, COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
MINISTER MARIO MACHUNGO, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
PRESIDENCY OSCAR MONTEIRO, EDUCATION MINISTER GRACA
SIMBINE, WORKS AND HOUSING MINISTER JULIO CARRILHO,
PORTS AND RAILWAY DIRECTOR ALCANTARA SANTOS, JOAO
BAPTISTA COSME FROM MINISTRY OF DEVELOPMENT AND ECONOMIC
PLANNING, AND LUIS BERNARDO HONWANA, VICE DIRECTOR OF
PRESIDENT'S OFFICE. THE PROMINENT MEMBERS OF THE CUBAN
PARTY INCLUDED CASTRO, OSMANI CIENFUEGOS, PCC CENTRAL
COMMITTEE MEMBER AND SECRETARY OF COUNCIL OF MINISTERS;
JOSE A. NARANJO, PCC CENTRAL COMMITTEE MEMBER AND MIN-
ISTER OF FOOD INDUSTRY: JOSE ABRANTES, PCC CENTRAL COM-
MITTEE MEMBER AND VICE MINISTER OF INTERIOR: RAUL
VALDES VIVO, PCC CENTRAL COMMITTEE MEMBERS IN CHARGE OF
FOREIGN PARTY RELATIONS: ULISSESS ROSALES DEL TORO,
PCC CENTRAL COMMITTEE MEMBER AND GENERAL OF BRIGADE;
VICTOR SRUEG COLAS, GENERAL OF BRIGADE; RAMON ESPINOSA

MARTINE, GENERAL OF BRIGADE: AND JOSE MIYAR, DEPUTY
OF POPULAR ASSEMBLY.

6. SOUTH AFRICAN RADIO STATED ON MARCH 22, CITING
MOZAMBIQUE RADIO AS SOURCE, THAT CASTRO WILL RETURN TO
MOZAMBIQUE TO CONFER WITH SOVIET PRESIDENT PODGORNYY.
WE CANNOT CONFIRM THIS AS YET.DE PREE

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Message Attributes

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